



ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR.

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THOMAS G. NEWMAN, } EDITORS.  
GEORGE W. YORK, }

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## EDITORIAL BUZZINGS.

Fair is the flush of the dawning  
Over the face of the sky;  
Sweet is the tangle of music  
From wild birds fluttering by;  
Brilliant the glow of the sunset,  
Graceful the bound of the deer;  
And glad is the laugh of the children  
Ringing like joy-bells clear.

—Selected.

**Father Langstroth**, in this issue of the BEE JOURNAL, concludes the account of his "head trouble." He wishes us to correct the reading of the first sentence of the second paragraph of his first "head trouble" article, found on page 174 of the BEE JOURNAL for Aug. 4, beginning thus: "I quote so largely," etc. He intended to have it read as follows:

I quote so largely from the blessed book, because I hope some of my readers, overpowered by gloomy foreboding, may find help from my own personal experience, and much more from their confirmation by God's word.

**Not in September.**—By the following announcement received from Secretary Hutchinson, we learn that it is now decided that the North American will not meet in Washington in the month of September. Bro. H. wrote us thus on Aug. 6:

FRIEND YORK:—I am now able to announce officially that the North American will not meet during the G. A. R. Encampment. As soon as it is known definitely what societies will meet in Washington near the end of the year, Mr. Benton will let us know, and a date will be chosen. Yours truly,  
W. Z. HUTCHINSON.

Now that it is finally decided to hold the convention later in the season, there will be ample time for everybody to prepare to attend when the time does come. It will also give Bro. Hutchinson, and other leaders, a better chance to "fix up" a fine programme for the occasion. It should be made the largest and best convention ever held by the Association, as it will be a most favorable opportunity to impress the authorities at Washington with the fact that bee-keeping is no mere "side-show" following the "agricultural circus."

**Prof. H. W. Wiley** has again been heard from—this time in reply to a letter which we wrote him, asking what he "meant by the last sentence of his letter on page 77 of the BEE JOURNAL for July 14," referring to the words, "there is a motive for it," used by the Professor when speaking of apiarian periodicals seeming to side with the adulterators of honey. We asked him if he "meant to say, or even hint, that the bee-papers are in league with adulterators of honey." Here is his reply:

GEORGE W. YORK & Co., Chicago, Ills.

Gentlemen:—I am in receipt of your letter, asking what is meant by the expression, "there is a motive for it," in the letter published on page 77 of the BEE JOURNAL for July 14. In using this expression I had in view the fact that the bee-papers to which I alluded, viz: the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL in particular, and *Gleanings in Bee-Culture*,

had been actuated by a motive of personal hostility to the undersigned. This is particularly evident from the method which they employed in referring to my publications on the subject of honey.

In regard to the course of the bee-papers in denying the existence of the adulteration of honey, I had in view particularly the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, which had stated that although the adulteration of honey was formerly practiced to a large extent, it had ceased to be profitable, and it was now no longer carried on. These are not the exact words the paper used, for I am quoting from memory, but the idea. This motive of personal hostility seemed to be the cause of such assertions, since I could not really believe that the editors of the BEE JOURNAL were ignorant of the extent to which the adulteration was practiced.

I find, however, on further correspondence with bee-keepers, that it was the general opinion (up to the time of the publication of the official report) that the adulteration of honey was almost a thing of the past, and that the large quantities of liquid honeys which were placed on the market were practically genuine. I am,

Respectfully,

H. W. WILEY, *Chemist.*

We are glad to give space to the above explanation by Prof. Wiley, and also to know that he did not intend to suggest that bee-papers were trying to help the adulterators of honey. All who have read the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL and *Gleanings* the past ten years know very well that they have been relentless in their warfare against the diabolical practice of adulterating honey.

We did think (and do yet, for that matter) that there was but little adulterating of honey being done, for if that were not the case, why the great scarcity of honey upon the markets during the past few years?

We have never harbored any "personal hostility" toward Prof. Wiley, but only felt that it was our duty, as well as privilege, to denounce what we believed deserved the severest condemnation on the part of every lover of the pursuit of bee-keeping. In so doing, we only lived up to the light as we saw it, and as we felt that justice to all demanded.

Adulteration of honey, even to the slightest extent, must cease! If Prof. Wiley, or any one else can *help* to put a stop to that nefarious practice, all bee-keepers and bee-papers will rejoice, and earnestly hope that the day of reckoning may speedily come to every infernal scamp that attempts to ruin so honorable and desirable a pursuit as bee-keeping, in order to increase his amount of "filthy lucre" by more filthy and detestable practices.

Only in the strongest union of all the good elements in any national moral effort, can there be hope for the overthrow of any great and threatening evil, and the final triumph of "that righteousness which exalteth a nation."

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**Dr. C. C. Miller**, in his last "bundle" of inimitable "Stray Straws" published in *Gleanings*—which "straws" are both wise and otherwise, but always enjoyed—has a rye (awry) straw about the new editor of the BEE JOURNAL. The naughty (knotty) straw referred to looks like this:

York, of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, won't dare commit any crime, for his picture is getting into all the journals so much that he'd be detected and identified wherever he sought safety in flight.

We are glad the good Doctor reminded us of that fact, as it will keep us from doing something just awfully bad! We wish we could "get even" with him in some way, but it is too hot to try now. We think we will just pray that he may have an extra dose of "caloric" here, so as to be prepared for his hereafter. But then, a "man of straw(s)" will burn easily enough, anyway, so we may as well give up, and let the Doctor have his own way.

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**Salve.**—Take equal parts of shoe-maker's-wax, beeswax and rosin, mix and melt over a slow fire; add a little tallow to give the right consistency, and you will have a splendid salve. Spread on a piece of cloth and apply.—*Exch.*

**Southern Minnesota Fair.**

The Premium List has been received of the 13th Annual Fair of the Southern Minnesota Fair Association in connection with the Olmstead County Agricultural Society to be held at Rochester, Minn., on Sept. 12 to 17, 1892. We have examined the Premium List very carefully, and can find only two apianian premiums, and those are offered under "Sugar, Syrup and Honey," of which department Mrs. F. R. Mosse is the Superintendent. The two items read thus:

Best shipment of honey in boxes .....	\$4.00	\$2.00
Best bee-hive method of securing the honey and taking care of bees.....	2.00	1.00

Just think of it, *nine whole dollars* offered as premiums to bee-keepers! What a wonderful inducement for a fine apicultural display! Those Fair (or unfair) managers ought to be labored with until they give some adequate recognition to bee-keeping. Some live bee-keeper in that region should see to it that another year something be done for our industry. A copy of the Premium List may be secured by addressing Mr. Geo. W. Granger, Assistant Secretary, Rochester, Minn.

**Wireworms** are quite exhaustively treated of by Prof. John O'B. Scobey, in Bulletin No. 4, of the Experiment Station at Pullman, State of Washington. A copy may be had by sending your name and address.

**Mr. R. D. Avery**, formerly of Independence, Mo., stopped at the BEE JOURNAL office one day last week. He was on his way to London Bridge, Va., where he expects to keep bees extensively. We wish him success.

**Bees** are often seen in the act of sucking the juices of fruits, but as a matter of fact, it is always wasps or other insects or birds that cut the skin.

**The Iowa State Bee-Keepers'**

Society will hold their next annual meeting on the Fair Grounds at Des Moines, beginning at 1:30 p.m., on Aug. 30, and continuing two days. It is hoped that there may a large attendance. The following is the programme, which promises a "feast of good things:"

AUGUST 30—1:30 P.M.

1. Usual Preliminary Business.
2. Address by President.
3. Benefits of Bees to Agriculture—Frank Coverdale, of Welton.
4. My System of Wintering Bees—M. M. Hamilton, of Clearfield.
5. The Columbian Exposition, and the Duty of Iowa Bee-Keepers in Relation Thereto—F. N. Chase, of Cedar Falls, Secretary of the Iowa Columbian Commission.
6. Questions by members.

AUGUST 31—1:30 P.M.

1. Is any Legislation Desirable for Iowa Bee-Keepers?—E. Kretschmer, of Red Oak.
2. Some of the Things I Don't Know About Bee-Keeping—O. B. Barrows, of Marshalltown.
3. Bees and Farming—C. D. Levering, of Wiota.
4. How Can Beginners be Best Educated Not to Ruin a Market for those of More Experience?—W. C. Frazier, of Atlantic.
5. What is the Best Way of Building up Colonies in the Spring for the Honey Crop?—Joseph Nysewander, of Des Moines.
6. Report of Treasurer and Miscellaneous Business.
7. Election of Officers.

**Joseph Kirkland** writes in the August *New England Magazine* by far the best account of the great Chicago Fire that has found its way into print. He gives a straight, connected story of the progress of the fire, like a good newspaper man who knows how to group his facts into a telling, vivid, and consecutive story. The article is fully illustrated from photographs furnished by Major Kirkland's Western Publishers, who possess the best collection of the kind in the country.



**Mr. Benj. E. Rice**, of Boscobel, Wis., died of lung trouble at 3 p.m. on Aug. 8, 1892. Mr. Edwin Pike, the President of the Southwestern Wisconsin Bee-Keepers' Association, sent us this sad information. Mr. Rice was not only the efficient Secretary of the above Association, but one of the most prominent and active bee-keepers in Wisconsin. He was born in Angelica, Allegany county, N. Y., in 1843, enlisted in the Union Army in 1861, and was badly wounded at a battle in Virginia. The BEE JOURNAL extends to the sorrowing relatives and friends its heartfelt sympathy in their sad affliction.

**Be Sure** to read offer on page 229.

**Pulled Queens.**—Dr. C. C. Miller, of Marengo, Ills., among his "Stray Straws" in the last number of *Gleanings*, gives this, which may be something new to many of our readers:

Young queens pulled out of their cells and introduced with success, is the theme of an item in the *French Revue*. We call them "pulled queens" at our house, and have used them for several years. Just tear open a queen-cell; and if the young queen is strong enough to hold on to the comb, she will be kindly received almost anywhere by merely placing her on the comb among the bees. Friend Root was quite interested on seeing us use "pulled queens" on one of his visits here.

#### **Shipments of Beeswax.**

Such should not be sent to George W. York & Co., or the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, as we do not handle it. Several have forwarded some to us, and we have in every case turned it over to Thomas G. Newman. Hereafter please remember that we do not handle Beeswax, or deal in Bee-Keepers' Supplies. We have also received orders for Supplies, which we have invariably turned over the same way as the Beeswax that was sent us.

Read S. F. & I. Trego's Advertisement.

**Carelessness** is never excusable, and especially when around an apiary. Many an accident around bees, either fatal or nearly so, might have been prevented if some one had not been careless. Mrs. Atchley tells in the following letter dated July 30, how she suffered financial loss through the carelessness of some men who were unloading hay in a barn near her apiary:

**BRO. YORK:**—As we all love to have some one to tell our trouble to, I will tell you of a terrible accident.

We have a very large barn, and we rented half of it to some hay-men to store hay in. Yesterday, while they were unloading, they let a bale of hay fall on one of the teams, and the horses ran away, and right through my apiary with the wagon-tongue down. The first hive struck was torn all to pieces; it contained a powerful colony, with 32 fine queen-cells (Doolittle) nearly ready to take off. Besides, they bursted and knocked over seven other hives. The damage amounted to more than \$25.

I hope my experience will be the means of saving another such disaster. We all should be very careful with teams and wagons near the apiary.

MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY.

**Italian Bees.**—Mr. Alexander Grant, of Lowell, Wis., on Aug. 7, 1892, wrote us as follows about a colony of bees he purchased, and questioned whether or not they are Italians:

I bought a colony of Italian bees last spring, and there are some bee-keepers here who keep Italian bees that say I was swindled. The bees I got are no larger than our common brown bees, and there are a good many small, black bees among them. The drones are as black as any black drones. Should not the drones be a little yellow, like the worker-bees? I would like to know the difference between the two kinds of bees. These little black ones are so cross, and will sting worse than a yellow jacket. They cost me \$10. and \$2.75 for express charges. Please let me know if they are anywhere near like the Italian bees. If not, tell me where to get some of the right kind. I do not think that I will keep these any longer than this fall; that is, if I can get better ones. The man I bought these bees from pretends to be one of the leading

bee-men of the country. I would like to have this put in the BEE JOURNAL so that he could see it.

ALEXANDER GRANT.

In order that Mr. Grant, as well as any others, may hereafter know what Italian bees should look like, we take this description of Italian bees from Prof. Cook's "Bee-Keepers' Guide, or Manual of the Apiary:"

"The Italian worker-bee is quickly distinguished by the bright yellow rings at the base of the abdomen. Perhaps "golden" would be a better term, as these bands are often bright orange. If



ITALIAN WORKER-BEE.

the colony be pure, every bee will show three of these golden girdles. The first two segments or rings of the abdomen, except at their posterior border, and also the base or anterior border of the third, will be of this orange-yellow hue. The rest of the back or dorsal surface will be much as in the German race. Underneath the abdomen, except for a greater or less distance at the tip, will also be yellow, while the same color appears more or less strongly marked on the legs.

"The workers have longer ligulae or tongues than the German race, and their tongues are a little more hairy.

They are also more active, and less inclined to sting.

"The queen has the entire base of her abdomen, and sometimes nearly the whole of it, orange yellow. The variation as to the amount of color is quite striking. Sometimes very dark queens are imported right from the Ligurian hills, yet all the workers will wear the badge of purity—the three golden bands.

"The drones are quite variable. Sometimes the rings and patches of yellow will be very prominent, then, again, quite indistinct. But the underside of the body is always, so far as I have observed, mainly yellow."

**Live Bees** and samples of liquids can now be sent in the mails to the Dominican Republic we learn from the following published in the United States Official Postal Guide for July:

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT,

OFFICE OF FOREIGN MAILS,

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 5, 1892.

The International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union, at Berne, Switzerland, has officially informed this Department that the Postal Administration of the Dominican Republic gives circulation in its mails to live bees and samples of liquids, fatty substances and powders. Consequently those articles will be admitted to the mails hereafter dispatched from this country for the Dominican Republic, provided they are packed in exact accordance with the conditions prescribed in paragraphs "i" and "j," Note 14, page 905, of the United States Official Postal Guide, for January, 1892.

By direction of the Postmaster-General,  
N. M. Brooks,

Superintendent of Foreign Mails.

The Dominican Republic is just east of Cuba, being the eastern and larger part of the island of Hayti, which has an area of 18,000 square miles, and a population of 250,000.

**The Cortland Union Bee-Keepers' Association** will hold their annual picnic at Floral Trout Park, Cortland, N. Y., on Aug. 24, 1892. A special invitation is extended to all interested.



COMBED AND EXTRACTED.

**Getting Bees Ready for Winter.**

This is none too soon to have an eye to getting bees ready for winter. Plenty of good sealed honey, young queens, and vigorous bees are the *desiderata*. Let all good colonies alone if they are storing surplus. It is wise to save all the honey possible while the flow of nectar lasts.

On looking over an apiary of any size, colonies will be found that are not storing surplus, although they may have been a few weeks since; their case of sections may be partially filled, but they have swarmed probably more than once, and are so weak that they will not finish them during the season. One case of sealed sections is worth much more than many partially filled, and all such should be removed to colonies that are able to complete them, in lieu of giving empty ones.

When the case of partially-completed sections are removed, the state of the colony can be ascertained, and if found queenless it had better be united with some colony containing a laying one.—*Mrs. L. HARRISON, in Prairie Farmer.*

**Care of Comb Honey.**

If one has surplus cases enough, the best way to care for the honey is to pile up the cases in a dry, warm room—never store it in a cool cellar. Pile the cases with sticks between, so the air can circulate through them. If the room is warm and dry enough, the honey in cells not capped over, will thicken and not run out.

If a queen-excluding honey-board has been used, there will be little or no pollen in the sections, and little danger from the moth. To guard against them, however, it will be best to fumigate once with sulphur about two weeks after removal from the hives.

When ready for market the sections should be put in nice, new shipping-cases, and should be sold only at fair, paying prices.—*C. H. DIBBERN, in the Western Plowman.*

**Don't Fail** to read all of page 229.

**QUERIES AND REPLIES.****Overstocking a Location with Bees.**

**Query 832.**—How many colonies of bees are required to overstock a location on a peninsula so narrow that within a range of three miles there are only about eight square miles of territory, with an abundance of fruit blossoms, white clover, basswood, milk-weed, and golden-rod?—Michigan.

From 100 to 150 colonies.—*J. M. HAMBAUGH.*

That is a pretty good lay-out. It might support 100.—*C. C. MILLER.*

That is a good location, but a very difficult question to answer.—*H. D. CUTTING.*

Commence with 50, and increase until you find you have too many.—*E. FRANCE.*

We have never tried such a location, so we could not answer knowingly.—*DADANT & SON.*

It is too hard a question. May be 100. Perhaps 200. Possibly 50—in some seasons.—*EUGENE SECOR.*

I should say that about 100 would be about the limit that can be profitably kept in such limited space.—*C. H. DIBBERN.*

No one knows. It probably depends upon the season. I think that more than 100 colonies would probably work in most seasons at a loss.—*A. J. COOK.*

I judge that such a territory as you describe might in a good season support 100 colonies. What number would overstock it I cannot tell.—*M. MAHIN.*

Much depends. Fifty or 100 colonies might not overstock it during an extra season, while a half dozen might be too many for a bad season.—*J. P. H. BROWN.*

As a rule, 100 colonies are enough in one locality; by separating your apiaries  $1\frac{1}{2}$  or 2 miles, you could probably keep double that number.—*Mrs. L. HARRISON.*

I don't know. In fact, I don't believe much in the idea of overstocking. I only keep a few colonies for experimental purposes, so I have never had any overstocking in my own vicinity.—*J. E. POND.*



I would think that such a location would support as many colonies of bees as any inland location, as bees do not, in my opinion, work to advantage beyond a distance of three miles.—G. L. TINKER.

If none of the flowers should produce nectar, one colony would overstock it; if all should produce in abundance, a thousand might not. This is one of the unknowable things except *Post facto*.—R. L. TAYLOR.

All depends upon the season. In a poor season a few colonies would overstock it. In years when a basswood tree would furnish the needs of a colony, a large apiary would thrive there.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

I should judge that 100 colonies would find all they could do in such a place; but I would not like to risk any more unless the place is richer with bee-forage than any place I have ever seen.—G. W. DEMAREE.

That will depend upon the season. If the seasons should be like this has been in my locality, one colony would overstock it. An abundance of white clover bloom here and no honey; I am "feeding" to keep bees from starving.—A. B. MASON.

Oh, Bro. Michigan, you have got clear out of my reach. It would depend entirely, of course, upon the amount of honey-producing plants, etc., of your eight square miles. I would make a guess only, at 50 colonies.—MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY.

Do you mean by a "range," a radius, or diameter of three miles? Bees will readily work 3 miles in every direction on the land. Eight square miles would support from 40 to 100 colonies, according to flora and seasons, I would guess.—JAMES HEDDON.

So much more depends upon the management than upon the acreage, that it is very difficult to answer such a question satisfactorily without knowing whether comb or extracted honey is to be produced, and *who* is to take charge of the bees. With 80 colonies to the square mile, it would be well stocked.—MRS. J. N. HEATER.

The location described in the question is certainly a good one, so far as flora is concerned. The production of honey, however, depends upon atmospheric conditions, and the kind of season generally; not on the acreage or upon the flowers, for even white clover, usually such a

generous honey-producer, is reported to yield no honey at all in some localities this year, where generally it has yielded abundantly. Such reports come every year from some locality or other, and atmospheric conditions are responsible for such a state of affairs. It would certainly be advisable to try 50 or 60 colonies, and increase the number until you know experimentally the proper number to keep.—EDITORS.

**Home and Country**, of New York, appeared in July, and will thereafter among the illustrated magazines. Its specialties will be Literature, War History, Finance and Industrial Progress. Among the interesting features of the first number are descriptions of the trial trips of the *Clermont* and *Orleans*, the first steamers navigating the Hudson and Mississippi; a full yet concise discussion of Senator Peffer's bill for the nomination and election of Presidents by direct vote of the people written by its author; several well-written articles upon Finance and Trade, adapted to the understanding of ordinary readers; reminiscences of Grant and Lincoln; short stories, and a full-page illustration of the Battle of Atlanta.

The subscription price of "Home and Country" is \$2.00 per year. A copy of the "United States Official Postal Guide," containing lists of all post-offices in the United States, will be given to every subscriber at the regular subscription price.

**Your Subscription** to the BEE JOURNAL—is it paid up to date? If not, please send to us a dollar for a year, and thus show your appreciation of our efforts in your behalf. Look at your wrapper-label, and if the date looks like this—"Dec91," that \$1.00 sent to this office will make it look like this—Dec92.

**The Globe Bee-Veil**, which we offer on the third page of this number of the BEE JOURNAL, is just the thing. You can get it for sending us only three new subscribers, with \$3.00.

## CORRESPONDENCE

ON IMPORTANT SUBJECTS.

### An Account of My Head-Trouble.

REV. L. L. LANGSTROTH.

(Concluded from page 175.)

When 75 years old, the blind piles, of which my physician spoke in my youth, became only too apparent. I suffered so much that I seldom went abroad, and spent most of my time in a reclining position; and I was able to get home from my last attendance at church only by planting my hands and knees on the bottom of the carriage.

While thus suffering, my friend Dr. G. W. Keeley, of Oxford, O., urged me to put myself under the care of Dr. Prezinger, of Greenville, O., who had been very successful in curing persons similarly afflicted. At first I declined to be treated, saying I was too old to be cured, and believed it better, not to leave *well* enough alone (for there was no "well enough" about my case), but to leave *bad* enough alone. Interviews with parties at Oxford, however, who had been entirely cured by him, changed this decision.

An examination, made by the doctor in the presence of Dr. Keeley, showed that I was suffering severely from bleeding ulcers and numerous piles, one of which had been extruding for nearly a year. On the doctor assuring me that he could effect a radical cure, I placed myself under his care. No cutting, burning, or clamping operation was performed; and I received only one treatment a month. I suffered no pain worthy of mention.

My family physician had before this assured me that my melancholy came mainly from a diseased state of the rectum; but he failed to cure me. Before I was fully relieved by Dr. Prezinger, I fell again into my usual morbid condition, and did not see him for about two years.

While under treatment I conversed with many of his patients, and for the first time became aware of the intimate connection between melancholia and rectal disease. I believe that, without a single exception, all with whom I conversed, admitted that they were sufferers from mental depression.

Some confessed even to suicidal inclinations. I remember one in particular

who said, "I often thought of taking my life, and was deterred only by apprehensions of what would become of my dear wife and our poor little children!"

How often we hear it said, that *religion* is a leading cause of so much melancholy and insanity! I firmly believe that, where one person is made insane by perverted religious views, many are kept sane by the consoling hopes of the gospel of Christ. If a man has no belief in a loving Father, and no fear of "that dread bourne from which no traveler returns," why should he wish to live on, when to live is only to be wretched? Why should he not believe with Hume, that suicide is only "the diversion of the current of a little red fluid?" Very often no motive is strong enough to prevent a man from taking his life; but consideration for those who depend upon him for support, and the horror of leaving to family and friends a suicidal legacy.

Removing from Oxford to Dayton, and recovering again, I sought further treatment, and seemed at last to be almost if not completely cured. I had better health, and for a longer period than I could remember to have ever enjoyed in all my previous life; and for the first time in many years I strongly hoped that I should have no return of my former troubles. But after an interval of a year and a half, the old symptoms returned. I fought them again in every way that I could, but, as usual, the battle was not won. Clouds and darkness settled upon me so that I could say, in the words of the 88th Psalm, "My soul is full of trouble; I am counted with them that go down into the pit: I am as a man that hath no strength. Thou hast laid me in the lowest pit; in darkness, in the deeps. Thou hast put mine acquaintance far from me; I am shut up and I cannot come forth."

Previous to this last attack I always expected, even when most exuberant, that, sooner or later, I should again fall under the power of the old disease. Many of my readers will naturally think that such an expectation, suspended over my head like the sword of Damocles, must inevitably have caused me constant and distressing apprehensions; but, instead of this, scarcely any fear of the future distressed me. I could almost always say, "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof," and I was very much like a playful child. Go to it an say, "Dear little child, this is a very sorrowful world! How can you, then, be so light-hearted when so many trials are in



store for you?" The happy child will not suspend his sports even long enough to listen to your sad forebodings.

I have often thought, that, but for the special mercy of our loving Father in freeing me, when well, almost entirely from dismal apprehensions, I could never have lived and retained my reason so long beyond the period usually allotted to man.

I should here say, that, in my worst attacks, I was never subject to any illusions. I always knew that physical causes mainly were at the bottom of my sufferings, and felt sure that, as soon as these disappeared, I should be happy again. But as, in my cheerful moods, I seldom felt any dread of the future, yet when under the power of the disease, it was almost impossible for me to even conceive how I could ever be well and happy again.

While the nauseated stomach rejects the most wholesome food, the patient knows all the time that this is only disease; but this knowledge not only fails to stimulate his appetite, but it seems to him almost impossible even to imagine how he can ever want to eat again.

Since my recovery, in the fall of 1887, I found that Dr. Prezinger's treatment had not been continued long enough to complete the cure; but as soon as the relapse was fully established, no persuasions of my family could induce me to submit to further treatment.

In revising this statement, I ought to correct what I said about there never being but one issue to an attack after its incipient stages were clearly developed. In the fall of 1853 I was as much depressed as I had ever been, when, by the kindness of friends, I was able to visit a brother who was residing in Matamoros, Mexico. While traveling by steamboat, railroad and stage-coach to New Orleans—a journey which then occupied over a week—I recovered entirely before I reached that city, and had an unusually long interval of complete relief.

Also, on another occasion while greatly despondent, I was summoned, at the expense of one of the parties, as a witness in a suit at law, which had been brought against him for an alleged infringement on the right of another patentee. The entire change of scene, with all its many diversions, completely cured me. But for these instances, I might naturally infer that time was the only remedial agency, and that the disease could never be arrested, but must always run its usual course.

Among the many mistakes of my life, I count this to be one of the greatest, that, instead of seeking an entire change as soon as I begin to feel the approach of another attack, I have usually refused to admit the possibility of succumbing to it, and have struggled against it until no power of will was left for further conflict. Those who know how large a portion of my life I have lost by this disease will not be surprised at my unwillingness to quit my work, when to give it up often meant to forego opportunities never to be recalled. Besides all this, I have usually been so straitened for means that it has been very difficult for me to give up my necessary avocations for change of scene.

With thankfulness to God I can truly say that few men have had better friends, and that there has never been a time when I might not have secured means for travel and change of occupation simply by applying to them. But I have received so many favors, often most unexpected and entirely unsolicited, that it is only with extreme reluctance that I have been able to ask assistance of even my most intimate friends and relations. It may well be that some of them will be pained to know that I did not do so, when a little timely aid might have preserved me from long periods of suffering and inactivity. For the many favors I have received from bee-keepers at home and abroad, and from personal friends and relations, I hereby tender my most heartfelt thanks.

No doubt some of my readers will blame me for spending so much time, when under the power of melancholy, in playing chess, even though I tempted nobody else to waste any time upon it. But I most devoutly believe, that, in fighting such a malady, the end fully justifies all means which are not in themselves immoral. It would be well, if it were plainly understood, and more fully realized, that, by dwelling too long upon painful subjects, we may at last lose mental control and become absolutely insane, there is no doubt that many who have strong hereditary tendencies that way may, by wise foresight and strong effort, counteract them.

The following true story will make more emphatic the above remarks:

About 50 years ago the Rev. Dr. Walker, who was a pastor of the Congregational church in Brattleboro, Vt., exchanged pulpits with me. On Saturday evening his wife spoke of the singular state of mind into which a well-known minister had fallen. He had

been a very acceptable pastor, and had declined, but a short time before, an invitation from an institution of learning, to solicit funds for them. As they still urged him to accept, he called a council of the neighboring ministers, who advised him not to accept the agency; whereupon (such often is human nature) he rejected their advice.

From the beginning of his work, his health, which before had been unusually good, began to fail. He became discouraged and morbid; and in conversation with Mrs. Walker, he contended that his afflictions were even greater than those of Job. He was reminded by her of a Christian brother known to both, who, after an absence from home of a few days, found, on his return, his beloved wife dead, and her dead infant lying in her arms. Even such an overwhelming calamity he thought was more bearable than those which had befallen him!

At this point in her narrative I became too much excited to sit still. Rising to my feet, I exclaimed, "Oh, that I could see this unhappy brother, and warn him of the fate, which, if he persists in cherishing these delusions, may soon overtake him! He is on the very verge of insanity, if not already insane."

After the sermon next morning, Mrs. Rockwell, the wife of the superintendent of the insane asylum of that place, said to us, "Do you know that Mr. ——" (the very brother we had been talking about) "was brought to our institution last night, quite insane?"

I once related this circumstance to a family circle, entirely unconscious that it could have any personal application. To my surprise, the father of the family privately said to me, with deep emotion, that nothing could have been told better adapted to influence for good one of his own children.

Oh, how often does some bereaved soul cry out in anguish, "I do well to give myself up to the indulgence of grief. I have no heart for anything but lamentations for the loved ones who have been buried out of my sight!" No! poor, afflicted soul, you do not do well when you neglect any positive duty. Beware lest what you call "the luxury of grief" may be carried so far as to become rebellious murmurings against the divine will.

I cannot here forbear giving a short extract from Walter Scott's *Antiquary*. An old fisherman had lost his son in a storm at sea. His landlord makes him a visit of condolence.

"When he came in front of the fisherman's hut he observed a man working intently, as if to repair a shattered boat that lay upon the beach; and going up to him he said, in a tone of sympathy, 'I am glad, Saunders, that you feel yourself able to make this exertion.' 'And what would ye have me do,' answered the fisherman, 'unless I wanted to see four children starve because one is drowned? It is weel with you gentles, that can sit in the house with handkerchers at your eyes when ye lose a friend; but the like of us maun to our work again, if our hearts were beating as hard as my hammer. . . . She maun be mended for the mornin' tide—that's a thing of necessity.' " Let us thank God for these "things of necessity."

Many of my experiences when under the attack of melancholia resemble very closely those of the poet Cowper. He had long spells of despondency, when his pen was entirely idle, and no persuasions of his most intimate friends could induce him to resume employments in which he once took so much delight. After he had abandoned, apparently for ever, the revision of his translation of Homer's *Iliad*, a relative one day placed on his writing-desk the manuscript at the place where he had left off, together with his books of reference. It was with great delight that he perceived that it attracted the attention of the afflicted poet, and that he began to resume the work of revision, so long suspended.

This reminds me of an incident in my own experience. The first revision of my work, "The Hive and Honey-Bee," had been about one-third completed, when the return of my disease compelled me to lay it aside for nearly a year, and nothing could induce me to resume it. My wife and mother had been for some time noticing that the violence of the attack seemed to be wearing away, and were daily hoping for some more decided signs of improvement. My mother, in joyful excitement, said to my wife, one day, "Oh! our dear one will be well again, for I saw him in his study, with his pen in his hand." They had both learned, from long experience, how invariably in my case, were the *cramp mental* and the *cramp digital* associated together.

How often has Cowper's sad history awakened our deepest sympathy! and to think that he never recovered from his last attack, but passed away under the terrible delusion that he was a hopeless outcast from all God's mercies! Let me give some of its mournful stanzas

from the last original piece Cowper ever composed :

#### THE CAST-AWAY.

Obscurest night involved the sky !  
Th' Atlantic billows roared,  
When such a destined wretch as I,  
Washed headlong from on board,  
Of friends, of hope, of all bereft,  
His floating home for ever left.

He long survives, who lives an hour  
In ocean, self-upheld ;  
And so long he, with unspent power,  
His destiny repelled ;  
And ever, as the minutes flew,  
Entreated help, or cried, " Adieu ! "

No poet wept him ; but the page  
Of narrative sincere,  
That tells his name, his worth, his age,  
Is wet with Anson's tear.  
And tears by bards or heroes shed,  
Alike immortalize the dead.

I therefore purpose not, or dream,  
Descanting on his fate,  
To give the melancholy theme  
A more enduring date ;  
But misery still delights to trace  
Its semblance in another's case.

No voice divine the storm allayed,  
No light propitious shone ;  
When, snatched from all effectual aid,  
We perished, each alone ;  
But I beneath a rougher sea,  
And whelmed in deeper gulfs than he.

Such a close to his sorrowful life is verily one of the inscrutable mysteries of Providence. God's judgments are indeed a great deep ; and when, to human sight, only clouds and darkness are around about him, we are sure that justice as well as judgment is the everlasting foundation of his throne, and that what we know not now, we shall know hereafter.

Blessed be the teachings of that Book which enable us to follow the flight of such a soul as that of Cowper's from all the fetters and limitations of diseased flesh and sense to the presence of Him who brought life and immortality to light !

Through life's vapors dimly seeing,  
Who but longs for day to break ?  
Oh, this mystery of being !  
When, oh when ! shall we awake ?

Oh the hour when this material  
Shall have vanished like a cloud—  
When, amid the wide ethereal,  
All th' invisible shall crowd,  
And the naked soul, surrounded  
With realities unknown,  
Triumph in the view unbounded,  
Feel herself with God alone !

In that sudden, strange transition,  
By what new and finer sense  
Shall she grasp the mighty vision,  
And receive its influence ?  
Angels guard the new immortal  
Through the wonder-teeming space,  
To the everlasting portal,  
To the spirits' resting place.

Can I trust a fellow-being ?

Can I trust an angel's care ?

Oh, thou merciful All-seeing,

Beam around my spirit there !

Jesus, blessed Mediator,

Thou the airy path hast trod !

Thou the Judge, the Consummator,

Shepherd of the fold of God !

Blessed fold ! no foe can enter,

And no friend departeth thence ;

Jesus is their Sun and Center ;

And their Guide, Omnipotence.

Blessed ! for the Lamb shall feed them,

All their tears shall wipe away—

To the living waters lead them,

Till fruition's perfect day.

Lo, it comes ! that day of wonder :

Louder chorals shake the skies ;

Hades' gates are burst asunder—

See the new-clothed myriads rise !

Thought, repress thy vain endeavor ;

Here must reason prostrate fall ;

Oh th' ineffable for ever !

Oh th' eternal All in all !

—JOSIAH CONDER.

Dayton, Ohio, July 14, 1892.

### Pleurisy-Root as a Honey-Plant.

JAMES HEDDON.

In a recent number of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL I recollect reading in a report of some botanist to whom had been sent a plant of "pleurisy" (he called it), that said plant was a variety of milk-weed, and tangled the bees as they gathered the honey. I doubt that the plant was pleurisy, and if so, why should that splendid honey-plant here possess no such tanglers ? Our pleurisy surely has no such threads, and no one ever saw a bee tangled nor bothered in the least, in any way, when gathering honey from that plant.

Again this year it is yielding copiously (it always does), and the best yields of basswood never attract the bees from it. It not only blooms with basswood, but weeks afterward. It is too bad to have such a false impression go among beekeepers regarding their best friend—this best of all honey-plants—the pleurisy.

While it is one of the milk-weed family, it has milk only in the root, and certainly has no "tanglers"—at least the variety we have has not. It is a perennial, hardy and tenacious, and in no sense noxious. This plant, together with sweet clover (both growing in waste places), is now keeping our two large apiaries quite busy.

Dowagiac, Mich., Aug. 4, 1892.

Read our great offer on page 229.



## The "Bee-Kings" in California.

WM. G. HEWES.

Most of the California bee-keepers aspire to be "bee-kings," but which they will not be until more attention is given to the management and care of the bees, and less to the acquisition of monstrous honey-tanks and jumbo extractors. There are many apiaries here where the honey-tanks have a capacity of from 20 to 40 tons—more than the apiary can fill in three seasons on an average. These jumbo extractors, which most of the bee-men think a necessity, a little reasoning will show to be a useless expense.

I have alone taken in one day, with Thomas G. Newman's Excelsior non-reversible extractor, 1,000 pounds of honey. Four persons can take 3,000 pounds. A good season here lasts eight weeks. Working six days a week, and taking out 3,000 pounds a day, we have 144,000 pounds of honey. Is there any bee-keeper in the world who ever took that much honey from one apiary? The largest amount I have ever known taken from one apiary in one season was 80,000 pounds. That was in 1884, when the honey-flow continued for four months. In that time that amount could be taken on the small machine.

But it is useless to go on; for anybody can see that \$50 machines are money out of pocket, not to speak of 30-basket steam-power affairs, such as one of the fraternity in Cuba uses. The climate of Cuba must be very enervating. In none of the reports from Mr. Osburn, which I have seen, does he claim a crop of 80,000 pounds. His season lasts, according to his statements, four months. Why! lie upon you! I can take single-handed, with the meanest little machine ever constructed, that amount of honey in that length of time. If this last statement of mine smacks of braggadocio, remember that the habit of lying is said to be superinduced by our glorious California climate!

Reversible extractors are a good thing, as the combs do not break down so badly as in the non-reversible ones. When my extractor is worn out, I shall get a Cowan extractor. I believe that the biggest crop in the biggest season that ever has been or will be taken from one apiary, can be handled easily with a \$10 Cowan.

In *Gleanings* I have sometimes seen a statement by the editor, which reads

something like this: "In California, where crops of from 50 to 100 tons are taken in a single season," etc. Mr. Root, will you please name an individual who ever secured a crop of 100 tons of honey? Have you not been imposed upon by the formidable array of tanks? Seeing the tanks, you naturally thought they were sometimes filled. I have lived in and kept bees in Ventura and Los Angeles counties now for nine years; and the biggest crop I ever heard of was that of Easley, who, in 1884, from two (and I am not sure but that there were three) apiaries took 87 tons of honey.

Two years later, from the same apiaries, Mr. W. T. Richardson, then and now the proprietor, canned up some 60 tons. Mr. Wilkin scattered bees all over Ventura county in 1884, and satisfied his ambition with a crop of 50 tons. Mr. Moffitt is reported to have had two crops of 50 tons. Mr. Mitchell, of Soledad Canyon, Los Angeles county, has had the pleasure of some 40 tons of honey as the product from his bees for a single season, and a few more I can name who have secured from 20 to 30 tons. But a large majority of the would-be "bee-kings," among whom is your humble servant, have never topped 10 tons.

The largest yield to the spring colony, of which I know anything definite, is that of Mr. Wm. Whittaker, of Piru Canyon, Ventura county; in 1884, from some 150 hives, he took over 30 tons; 419 pounds per colony is, I believe, the exact average. Mr. Nathan Shaw, also of Ventura county, somewhere back in the seventies, averaged more, I believe, than Mr. Whittaker, but I have not the exact figures.—*Gleanings*.

Newhall, Calif.

## Honey-Vinegar from Cappings, Etc.

H. FITZ HART.

Drain the cappings dry, and put them into a barrel that they will about two-thirds fill; cover with water, and let stand 48 hours. Drain the liquor off, press the cappings tightly together, and in 24 hours the heat will rise (like a hot-bed) to about 120°.

The sweetened water is now taken and tested with an egg; if too weak, add honey, if too strong, add water. It is then heated over a fire to about 110° (part can be heated sufficiently to bring the whole to that point, but unless the weather is cold, the heating is not abso-

lutely necessary), and again poured over the heated cappings; let stand again for 48 hours, and pour off into the barrel it is to remain in. A few combs filled with pollen will be found to accelerate the alcoholic fermentation. By this process I have made strong honey-vinegar in six weeks. A lot started on July 11 is now far advanced in acetic fermentation.

We have had rain here every day since June 8, resulting in a considerable diminution of our honey crop. I have extracted from 150 colonies only 3,600 pounds of very dark honey, but the bees are stronger than usual at this season, and the prospect of a fall crop is good, provided it does not rain for another two months as it is raining now.

Avery, La., July 30, 1892.

### The Season in N. W. Wisconsin.

REV. STEPHEN ROESE.

The season of 1892 with its discouraging experience will long be remembered by bee-keepers in this section of the country. The losses by winter-killing were few, but spring dwindling and starvation swept away more than one-half of the bees through the country here.

The weather having been cold and rainy all the spring and forepart of the summer, even to this date (July 30) with the exception of a few hot days from April 1 until June 20, we did not have 15 full days of sunshine, and bees dared not venture from home, for they never would return. The season being uncommonly late, and no nectar in any of the honey-producing plants, the best cared-for colonies were soon brought to the verge of starvation.

Apple-bloom did not benefit bees in the least, all clover fields having been killed out, and what little white clover did appear, did not seem to be noticed by the bees; and were they not fed and specially cared for here, the young brood would chill, and colonies die off one by one.

On reading the wonderful honey reports, and bees booming, in the BEE JOURNAL, the sensible bee-keeper's thoughts were nearly brought to a standstill. Providence must either have favored special ones, or forgotten to be gracious to others. Mr. C. Theilmann, of Theilmanton, Minn., has given a fair picture and true statement of things regarding apiculture in this section of the country; and judging from the tenor

of most of the writers in the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, his statements are correct.

It is only during the last three or four days that bees have been busy on bass-wood, but surplus honey of any kind has not been seen yet, for truly not more than two weeks ago the combs in the brood-nest were empty of honey, and only the strong colonies retained their drones. Swarms have been very few and late, only such colonies which were strong in early spring had made preparations for swarming. The writer has thus far not realized one new swarm to every 3 colonies alive this day.

The late and most terrible storms we had here a few days ago, have laid nearly all crops of any kind flat on the ground, as if a roller had passed over them; and unless buckwheat and fall flowers will help us out, bee-keepers will have to feed their bees for winter, to save them from starvation.

The writer saved about two-thirds of his apiary as "by the skin of the teeth," by feeding carefully, and placing hot bricks over the brood-nest night and day to keep the young brood from getting killed, and leaving on the winter packing until the middle of June; and for all this labor and anxiety I have not one drop of honey yet. I wonder if Dr. Miller thinks this is fun.

Malden Rock, Wis.

### The Wintering Problem.

C. LOWER.

What I know about the wintering problem is this: That the first two points in wintering bees that are in a healthy condition, with plenty of stores, is to keep them dry and quiet; top ventilation will give the former, and to keep bees quiet in winter quarters, the temperature must not mark more than 47° above zero.

I prepare my bees for winter quarters thus: The hives are 1½ story, with cloth over the brood-frames, which I turn back 2 inches at the back part of the hive, and cut a piece of wire-screen large enough to cover the opening, and then fill up the hive with oats straw, so full that the cover will not go down by about one inch, and I find that the underside of the cover, and one or two inches of the top of the straw, kept quite wet, while the lower part of the straw, and also the bees were dry and comfortable.

Winter before last my bees, in this condition, survived a temperature of  $16^{\circ}$  below zero; and last winter a neighbor left his bees on the summer stands without any protection until Jan. 15, while on the mornings of Jan. 12 and 13 it was  $18^{\circ}$  below zero, and his bees were still all right.

Mr. W. W. Duffield (Sept. 17, 1891, page 367) mentions cases where bees in eastern Kentucky survived the winter of 1886 by top ventilation, although he attributed to other causes. And Mr. J. H. Andre (April 28, 1892, page 576) gives an account of 10 colonies being lost for the want of top ventilation.

Last winter I kept a thermometer in my bee-house, and one out-doors from Dec. 19, 1891, and about sunrise each morning noted the degrees of each until Feb. 26, 1892, and the lowest was on Jan. 19, 1892, when it marked  $3^{\circ}$  below zero in the bee-house, and  $22^{\circ}$  out-doors; and the highest in the bee-house was on Jan. 24, 1892, at 2 p.m., when it went up to  $48^{\circ}$  above zero, and the bees became *very* restless. On Feb. 25, 1892, at 4 p.m., the same degree was reached with the same result; and on March 13, 1892, when it was  $29^{\circ}$  above in the bee-house, and  $22^{\circ}$  out-doors, I placed the thermometer in a hive, on top of the brood-frames, with the cloth removed, and in one hour it showed  $62^{\circ}$  above zero.

I tested another hive in the same way, with the same result, showing a difference of  $33^{\circ}$  inside and outside of the hive; and if the thermometer had been placed in the cluster of bees, it probably would have shown  $10^{\circ}$  or  $15^{\circ}$  higher than it did placed above them.

It is hard to freeze a healthy colony of bees, if they are kept dry, but if the dampness that arises from the bees is suffered to condense in and around the cluster, freezing is a dangerous point to reach.

Decorah, Iowa.

### Non-Swarming Hives and Self-Hivers.

JOHN CONSER.

The season here is very backward. White clover is not abundant, although enough to keep the bees breeding up, and cause swarming with the strongest colonies. Bees are working in the sections some, although the crop of white honey will be a short one. I work two apiaries, one in the non-swarming hives and new methods, of 60 colonies, and

no swarms from any of this apiary. The hives are running over with bees, and in fine condition. The most of my honey will be from this apiary this season.

The other apiary of 80 colonies is run on old principles with the Simplicity hives, and the bees have been swarming almost every day for the last two months, and doing very little in the sections. I have had some colonies that swarmed three times with laying queens, in the last two months.

I have been testing three of the Alley-Dibbern self-hivers this season. It has been a failure as far as hiving the bees in the other hive. Although the queen is hived in the new hive, the bees vacate and go below to their brood every time, one or two hours after swarming. It is "no go" unless the combs of the old hive are shaken in front of the new one, then moved away. This is a good deal of work, and no better than dividing the old colonies, by taking away one-half of the combs and putting them in a new hive, and allowing them to rear a queen. Both methods cut off the surplus honey.

Again, with the self-hiver three or four swarms will unite on some tree, even if their queens are caged in the trap; they will remain awhile, then all will go into one hive together, or to the woods, with some virgin queen.

Sedalia, Mo., Aug. 6, 1892.

### The Season—White-Ringed Bees.

J. W. MILLER.

By the way, I keep bees, too, and everywhere I go I am asked, "How have your bees done this season?" Well, I am going to tell. There are two answers—one is "Swarming," and the other is "Honey." I had 14 colonies last spring, and they swarmed 68 times, and my honey crop is 1,200 pounds short. I never saw white clover in such abundance, and basswood, buckwheat and all kinds of flowers. My bees are under perfect control, and when I started them off on clover, they would return, and if they could have talked they would have said, "There is no sweet there." Basswood and buckwheat was the same. I would like to hear a reason why there is no honey this season in some localities.

I have had great experience in bee-hunting, having found as high as 38 trees in one season. Three years ago last spring I found three trees which I cut, took the bees home, and put them



into hives. Two colonies were Italians, and one was white-ringed. The white-ringed bees seem to know just how to take care of their honey.

Two years ago I wanted some of their honey, and went to a hive, opened it, and began to take out honey, but I was obliged to drop it and take the "white-rings" out of my hair and clothing. I thought they would sting me to death, sure. I ran, I rolled, I hallooed, I kicked and I jumped. Finally, my wife came to my assistance with pails of water, and began throwing it on me, which soon made the bees let go.

I then set a day when I would try them again, but I went prepared with netting and tub of water. I opened the hive and began by throwing water on them, and in five minutes there was not a dry bee in the hive. It conquered them, so that they are now just as quiet as any of the rest of my bees. They are the longest, and have five distinct white rings, and will winter out-of-doors. My best white-ringed colony, last year, stored 112 pounds of surplus honey, while the Italians stored 72 pounds.

I would like to know if this white-ringed bee is known, and what its race is. Rodney, Mich., Aug. 4, 1892.

[Will Prof. Cook please give some light on the "white-ringed bees?" It might be well for Mr. Miller to mail a sample of the bees to Prof. Cook, at Agricultural College, Mich., for examination.—Eds.]

### Convention Notices.

**COLORADO.**—The Colorado State Bee-Keepers' Association will hold their "Honey-Day" in Longmont, Colo., on Sept. 28th, 1892.

Littleton, Colo. H. KNIGHT, Sec.

**PENNSYLVANIA.**—The Susquehanna Co. Bee-Keepers' Association will hold their 11th annual meeting at Rush, Pa., on Thursday, Sept. 1, 1892, at 10 a.m. All are cordially invited. Bring along any new fixtures of interest that you may have. H. M. SEELEY, Sec.

**WISCONSIN.**—The Southwestern Wisconsin Bee-Keepers' Association will hold its next annual meeting at Boscobel, Grant Co., Wis., on Jan. 13 and 14, 1893. All members of the Association are requested to be present as the following officers are to be elected: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant Sec., and Treasurer. Blank Reports will be sent each member, for the year 1892, with instructions. A cordial invitation is extended to all beekeepers, and especially to those that would like to join with us. Each member will be notified at least one month before the meeting.

Boscobel, Wis.

EDWIN PIER, Pres.

### CONVENTION DIRECTORY.

#### Time and place of meeting.

1892.  
Aug. 19.—Darke Co. Union, at Greenville, O.  
Geo. H. Kirkpatrick, Sec., Union City, Ind.  
Aug. 27.—Haldimand, at S. Cayuga, Ont.  
E. C. Campbell, Sec., Cayuga, Ont.  
Aug. 30, 31.—Iowa State, at Des Moines, Iowa.  
J. W. Bittenbender, Sec., Knoxville, Iowa.  
Sept. 1.—Susquehanna Co., at Rush, Pa.  
H. M. Seeley, Sec., Harford, Pa.  
Sept. 7, 8.—Nebraska, at Lincoln, Nebr.  
L. D. Stilson, Sec., York, Nebr.  
Oct. 7.—Utah, at Salt Lake City, Utah.  
John C. Swanner, Sec., Salt Lake City, Utah.  
1893.  
Jan. 13, 14.—S.W. Wisconsin, at Boscobel, Wis.  
Benj. E. Rice, Sec., Boscobel, Wis.

**In order to have this table complete, Secretaries are requested to forward full particulars of the time and the place of each future meeting.—THE EDITORS.**

#### North American Bee-Keepers' Association

PRESIDENT—Eugene Secor, Forest City, Iowa.  
SECRETARY—W. Z. Hutchinson, Flint, Mich.

#### National Bee-Keepers' Union.

PRESIDENT—James Heddon, Dowagiac, Mich.  
SEC'Y AND MANAGER—T. G. Newman, Chicago.

### SELECTIONS FROM OUR LETTER BOX

#### REPORTS, PROSPECTS, ETC.

**Do not write anything for publication on the same sheet of paper with business matters, unless it can be torn apart without interfering with either part of the letter.**

#### Best Season Ever Known.

Last season was one of the poorest honey seasons we have ever had in this section of country. From 90 colonies I did not get one pound of nice honey. This season is one of the best that I have ever known. Last year I did not have one swarm from 90 colonies—this year they have swarmed all the time. They would commence swarming before breakfast, and keep it up until supper-time. I think that last winter and spring at least 50 per cent. of the bees in this section of country died. The amount of surplus honey per colony is not as good as were in hopes of getting this year.

EDWIN RICE.

Chaffee, N. Y., Aug. 1, 1892.

**Feeding Dry Sugar to Bees.**

I notice on page 180 a statement by "Malta" that it is possible to feed dry sugar to bees successfully to keep them from starving, or for winter stores. I wish "Malta" would tell how to feed it in that way. Some of my bees need feeding now, and the weather is so warm. I abhor melting up sugar or candied honey. Feeding dry sugar would be a great boon, when necessary to feed.

THOS. A. ANDERSON.

Montgomery City, Mo., Aug. 8, 1892.

[Perhaps "Malta" will be kind enough to describe his manner of feeding dry sugar to bees, so that bee-keepers may take advantage of that manner of feeding whenever the bees are short of stores.—EDS.]

**Small Loss in Wintering Bees.**

I winter my bees in the one-story chaff hives, with a chaff cushion over the brood-frames, on the summer stands. I have quit feeding; I unite and double back until they will winter without feeding. I have lost 5 colonies in the past seven years, and that was caused by neglect. I make my own hives.

B. F. BEHELER.

Jumping Branch, W. Va., Aug. 8.

**Not Much to Gather Honey From.**

Bees have not done much this season in western Connecticut. The spring was backward, and there was no white clover, and not much basswood. The bees did not have much to gather honey from—the only thing to rely on is golden-rod and asters for winter stores. I shall get perhaps 100 pounds of comb honey in sections for the season.

H. H. KNAPP.

Danbury, Conn., Aug. 3, 1892.

**Characteristics of Punic Bees.**

I do not think it makes much difference to the honey producer whether there are one or a dozen varieties of bees in North Africa. I have only seen the bees from a Punic queen mated with a yellow drone, but they differ from Italians, blacks or hybrids of the same in their habits. They stand the changeable weather in spring much better. They work earlier in the morning, and are stronger and quicker on the wing.

In swarming they fly straight to a tree and cluster at once, and if everything is ready they can be on the stand in the apiary in ten minutes from the time the first bee leaves the hive. Their guard at the entrance is small, but effective, even against the bee-moth.

The only objection I have to them is that (contrary to my expectations) their work in the sections is Italian, and does not compare favorably with the work of our other hybrids. I think it would be well to have the opinions of some who have Punic bees, and know they are pure. If our queen had mated with a black drone, I do not suppose we would have known the difference, and would likely have thought them pure.

WM. CLARK.

Pulaski, Ky., Aug. 4, 1892.

**Will Store Enough for Winter.**

I have 70 colonies of bees, spring count, all in good condition, with no increase and no honey to spare for this year. The weather is very dry, and they average a pound a day at this time; but I think they will store honey enough to last through the winter.

JOHN ROLLER.

Richwood, Wis., Aug. 10, 1892.

**Bad and Short Season.**

On June 8 I extracted 2 gallons of white clover honey, per double Langstroth hive. From June 9 we had daily rains to July 27, and up to that date bees gathered little or no surplus honey. We have had no rain the past five or six days, and now it looks as if the bees would store surplus honey. So far I consider the season bad and short.

P. E. COUVILLON.

Carencro, La., Aug. 2, 1892.

**My Experience with Punic Bees.**

I procured a Punic queen from Henry Alley last October, and introduced her to a small colony of common black California bees. In three days after the queen was introduced, I examined them, and found all the combs full of eggs, and by Dec. 1 they were a good-sized colony. I examined them on March 1, and found them full of brood sealed up. On April 1 they filled a hive containing 15 frames 12x12 inches. I then divided them, and the new hive now contains 13 frames 8x17 inches full of brood and

honey. The old colony since April 1 has filled 17 frames 12x12 inches with new comb and brood, which I gave to other colonies, and they now have 15 frames full of honey and brood. My other colonies of common California bees have stored less than one-third as much honey to the colony of equal size as the Punic bees.

From my little experience with Punic bees, I consider them far superior to any other bees I have tried. There has been much said about Punic bees—for and against them—but if they are given a fair trial, their good qualities will win the favor of all good bee-keepers. They are quick and active, good workers and hardy, and build up to very strong colonies without swarming, if they have plenty of room. They build white comb, and the brood is very compact and regular. I am satisfied that all who will give the Punic bees a fair trial, will be pleased with them. IVAN N. MOORE.

Los Angeles, Calif., Aug. 3, 1892.

#### No Honey from Basswood.

Bees have been doing fairly well here this season. Basswood bloomed nicely. I have two nice basswood trees close to a pump where we get water; these trees blossomed out in good shape, but I never saw but one or two bees on the trees, and I think there has been but very little honey gathered from basswood. I have 25 colonies now in good condition. I sent to Illinois and got 2 frames of brood and bees the first of July, and put one frame in each hive, and now I have two good colonies from them.

MARK D. JUDKINS.

Osakis, Minn., Aug. 9, 1892.

#### Saving Combs from Moth, Etc.

Last fall I had 28 colonies of bees, and on June 1, 1892, I had but 17. Two died during the winter, and 9 spring dwindled. To save the combs from the moths, I put some of them in hives under the strongest colonies, and some I saved by leaving them exposed to the rain in one-story hives without covers. Others I tied together, and put in a barrel of water until the pollen was about all dissolved, then removed, and left in a warm place to dry. There is no danger from moths after the pollen is all out. I have combs lying out in the yard now, and not a sign of a worm in them. I also have a few combs put

in a very warm place, and not a sign of a worm yet.

The honey crop will be very light in this locality. I have not heard of or seen a section of new honey this season. There was a good crop of white clover, but it was of short duration. Sweet clover is in full bloom, and the bees are busy on it when the weather permits.

JOSEPH MASON.

Wallace, Ills., Aug. 5, 1892.

#### Unfavorable Season for Bees.

We had March weather in February this year, and the consequence was that buds opened, or nearly so, and the bees began gathering pollen and bred up alarmingly fast. Then commenced the cold, wet weather, as was almost universal the forepart of the season. July 1 found the bees in a starving condition, and as a result fully 25 per cent., on an average, of the colonies died in this locality. There has been no surplus honey here, and only an exceptional swarm, so far as I know among the bee-keepers, and very little prospects of any.

W. H. HEPLER.

Manhattan, Kans., Aug. 5, 1892.

#### About Half a Crop of Honey.

The honey season is now over. Bees have, in my immediate vicinity, gathered about 50 per cent. of a good crop. From other reports received I think the State report will be less than 35 per cent. of a full crop. Basswood did not yield as freely as it does some years. Swarming was very light—not over 30 per cent.; with 12 colonies I had but one attempt at swarming, and only 3 increase thus far. Fall flowers may yield a little yet.

H. W. SCOTT.

Barre, Vt., Aug. 3, 1892.

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**HONEY AND BEESWAX MARKET.**

**CHICAGO, Aug. 13.**—No choice comb on the market. Some inquiries for new stock, with none to offer. A good article would bring 15 @16c. Extracted is very scarce, and plenty of inquiry for same; it would bring 7@8c. Beeswax—firm at 26@27c.; good demand. J. A. LAMON, 44-46 S. Water St.

**CHICAGO, Aug. 13.**—Comb honey is dull and no demand. Selling finest grade white at 15c. With new crop prices will rule firmer. Extracted is scarce and in good demand at 7@7½c. Beeswax, selling at 26c. S. T. FISH & CO., 189 S. Water St.

**CHICAGO, Aug. 13.**—New comb honey is offered at 15@16c. for best grades of white; dark, 10@13c., but sales are few, as the weather is hot, and fruit is used for the table. Extracted is selling at 6@7@8c., according to kind and quality. Beeswax, 23@26c. R. A. BURNETT, 161 S. Water St.

**NEW YORK, Aug. 13.**—Extracted in good demand and fair supply. We quote: Southern per gallon, 65@75c.; orange bloom, 7@7½c. ♀ lb. Beeswax, 26@28c.

HILDRETH BROS. & SEGELKEN,  
28-30 West Broadway.

**KANSAS CITY, Mo., Aug. 13.**—The old crop of comb honey is all cleaned up. First shipment of new comb honey this week, which we quote at 16c. for No. 1 1-lbs.

CLEMONS, MASON & CO.,  
Cor. 4th and Walnut Sts.

**CINCINNATI, Aug. 13.**—Demand is good for extracted at 5@8c. Demand is slow for comb honey, at 12@15c. for best white. Beeswax is in slow demand, at 23@25c. for good to choice yellow.

C. F. MUTH & SON,  
Cor. Freeman & Central Aves.

**NEW YORK, Aug. 13.**—Demand for comb is very small. Considerable comb honey on the market, of 2nd grade, but no fancy of any account. Some demand for extracted, clover 6 @7c.; buckwheat, 5@5½c.; Southern, 65@75c per gal.; Calif., 6¼@7c. per lb. Beeswax—a little easier, with supply to meet demand, at 25@27c.; 1 to 2c more per lb. for extra select.

CHAS. ISRAEL & BROS., 110 Hudson St.

**ALBANY, N. Y., Aug. 13.**—Demand is very little, and market quiet. We are selling some Florida new orange-blossom extracted honey to good advantage. Beeswax—28@30c.

H. R. WRIGHT, 326-328 Broadway.

**DETROIT, Aug. 13.**—Best white comb honey 12@13c.; but little left to sell. Extracted, 7 @8c. Beeswax, 26@27c.

M. H. HUNT, Bell Branch, Mich.

**NEW YORK, Aug. 13.**—New comb and extracted honey is arriving in small quantities. Comb honey is in very light demand at 15@16c. for fancy white in one-pound sections. Extracted is selling at 6@8c. for white. Demand is limited. Comb honey we would advise keeping in the country until say about Aug. 25 to Sept. 1.

F. I. SAGE & SON, 183 Reade St.

**SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 13.**—Demand quiet as old crop is nearly exhausted and new crop not in yet. We quote: Extracted, 5½@6 cts. Comb, 1-lbs., 10@11c.; 2-lbs., 6@8c. Beeswax—24@25c.

SCHACHT, LEMCKE & STEINER,  
16 Drumm Street.

**BOSTON, Aug. 13.**—Demand is light. White 1-lbs., 13@15c. No 2-lbs. on hand. No Beeswax on hand. Extracted, 7@8c. Demand is light for all.

BLAKE & RIPLEY, 57 Chatham St.

**MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., Aug. 13.**—Market is dull in general, though some is being worked off, but mostly at cut prices. Fancy white, 15 @17c., 1-lb. sections; dark, 8@10c. Extracted white, 7@8c.; dark, 5@6c.

STEWART & ELLIOTT.

**KANSAS CITY, Mo., Aug. 13.**—Old honey is cleaned up, both extracted and comb. New crop will be in about July 10, here.

HAMBLIN & BEARSS, 514 Walnut St.

**NEW YORK, Aug. 13.**—Demand moderate, and supply reduced, with no more glassed 1-lb. nor paper cartons, 1-lb. We quote: Comb, 1-lb., 14@15c. Extracted—Basswood, 7¼@7½c.; buckwheat, 5¼@6¼; Mangrove, 68@75c per gal. Good demand for dark extracted honey. Beeswax, in fair supply, with small demand, at 26@27c.

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